

# FROM THE MOUNTAIN DEPARTMENT.

## BRILLIANT DASH BY COL. CROOK.

### THE REBELS DRIVEN BACK WITH LOSS.

#### A NOTED GUERRILLA CAPTURED.

Special Dispatch to the N. Y. Tribune.

FRANKLIN, Va., Thursday, May 21, 1862.

Via BALTIMORE, May 22.

A dispatch this morning, from Lewisburg, Greenbrier County, states that Col. Crook, with a strong force of Infantry and Cavalry and Artillery, made a successful dash at the Central Railroad at the Jackson River depot, driving a large Rebel force before him, burning the railroad bridge ten miles from the depot, capturing the noted guerrilla Capt. Snodgrass and several men, passing through Covington without resistance, finding Rebel dispatches in telegraph office, to the effect that the Rebels' military movement in Greenbrier and Mercer Counties had failed, and that Union sentiment prevailed. Several prominent Secessionists were arrested, and the whole movement has greatly strengthened the Union cause in those counties.

Gen. Cox telegraphs that the engagement when he retook Princeton, Mercer County, was warm, and continued at intervals during the day.

We lost about 30 killed and 70 wounded.

Prisoners report the enemy's loss double or triple that number. Our officers and men behaved admirably.

From Our Special Correspondent.

HQARANTERS IN THE FIELD,

FRANKLIN, Va., May 17, 1862.

Gen. Fremont has now been here in camp, with all the force he was able to bring forward on an emergency, since Tuesday last. The Rebels under Johnson, and report said also Jackson and Ewell, whose forces, if combined, must outnumber this command, having advanced suddenly and swiftly against Gen. Milroy, and having followed him and Gen. Schenck to within two miles of Franklin, have in their turn retired, and are—I suppose it may safely be said—in this immediate vicinity. It is asked why Gen. Fremont did not immediately pursue the retiring enemy, several answers might be given, but two are sufficient. First, the Rebels having chosen their own time, being familiar with the country, and being lightly encumbered with baggage, could not have been overtaken unless they chose to make a stand in a strong position; secondly, there were no means of supplying the pursuing force with subsistence, and the country has been stripped of all resources which might have temporarily supported a rapidly advancing force. There are rumors enough in camp concerning recent Rebel operations, which as rumors are not worth repeating, and as trustworthy intelligence, if there is such, ought not to be prematurely published.

Further illustration of the difficulties of advance accumulates daily in the obstructing between here and New Creek. The want of horses and wagons enough to make complete trips and furnish means of supplies from New Creek was seriously felt while the roads were in tolerable condition. Now that they have been exposed to three days rain, and constantly cut up meanwhile by heavy teams, the road occupied in the journey is heavily increased. When I came over the road in the beginning of the week, the numerous gulches which cross it might well have been repaired and rendered easily passable by very little labor. They are now reported, in such condition that some of them will require several days' work to put in good order. An ambulance arrived this morning, which has been four days and a half in coming through, and is nearly broken in pieces. The rain has swollen the streams which are crossed only by fords, and the depth of water makes some of them dangerous and many difficult. Altogether, it is only by the most energetic efforts that absolutely necessary subsistence is supplied to this army. Every mile that it advances increases the difficulty, but there is a prospect of relief in the arrival of horses from Wheeling, which were then deliverable under contract on or before May 15. Though they were wanted long before, and promised to be sent from the War Department, Major Cary, chief Quartermaster of this Department, was obliged to postpone according to the most leniently running of peaceful days. Meantime every military movement has been delayed, or prevented, for the want of supplies, repeatedly asked for, urgently needed, and which ought to have been promptly furnished. At present, the condition of the roads and the difficulties of transportation are much more serious obstacles to an advance than any amount of supplies of either kind in New-York to answer for; though the numerous gulches which cross it might well have been repaired and rendered easily passable by very little labor.

The Controller, in answer to a resolution, sent in a communication, setting forth that the real estate purchased by him for the use of the Fire Department, on account of the appropriation applicable thereto, for the year 1861, amounts to \$65,967.50. The cost of ground for the use of Engine Companies 1, 2, 13, 14, 31, 32, 33; Hose Companies 5, 10, 21, 23, 24, 45; Hook and Ladder Companies 6 and 18, ordered under resolutions already passed by the Common Council, is estimated at the sum of \$150,000. The amount appropriated for the purchase of real estate for the current year is \$50,000.

The ordinance providing for the relief of the families of volunteers from the City of New-York, serving in the army of the Union, which was made the special order of the day, and the initiation of motions, was taken up, on motion, the committee to whom the same was referred, and then adopted.

Mr. BOOTH moved to refer to the Committee on Laws, and Mr. FARLEY amended, to refer to a special committee, which amendment was carried, after a lively debate.

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The CONTROLLER, who set to be the treasurer of the Fund, has given power to sign one Assistant Treasurer for each Senatorial District of the city, which Assistants shall discharge the funds to the persons entitled to relief, under the provisions of the ordinance, residing in the several Senatorial Districts, and the amount of \$100,000, of which, the Assistant Treasurer shall not exceed \$50,000, and which the controller is authorized to pay out of the Fund thereby created and appropriated.

On the motion of Mr. GASKET, to amend by inserting the name of the City Chamberlain in the place of the Controller, a lengthy debate ensued.

Mr. DAYTON said that the Common Council had no authority to pledge the credit of the city by the adoption of this ordinance, as by so doing they would be setting in express, painful, and direct violation of the Charter. He did not think it proper for the City of New-York to go begging in this manner, as New-York was able to take care of her own charities.

The Controller, who had with one exception been the only person in any town or on the whole route over which we passed, who did not do so, the other was an old man living in a house of decent exterior, but having inside the same squalor, dock rooms, no told me he had lost a son in the Army, killed by the Yankees, whom we always used to believe would not fight. He went on to say that even Virginians were becoming convinced of their mistake in thus widely spreading and then turning into disunion and separation from the war. Even some of the dim notions of the real cause of the rebellion had penetrated, for he remarked that when this war was over the world would begin, and thus would be about the negroes, the result of which was not clear to his mind. I concur nothing at all, but that and angry mutterings about "boots negroes"—whatever they may be—marking his uncertain and troubled future.

Between Burlington and Petersburg, the second day's journey of thirty-one miles, we met numerous wagon trains returning to New Creek. The road is often so narrow that we could only turn aside and wait for them to pass. Every train and every horseman fed our impatience with different rumors, none doubting that a battle was imminent, for which we might arrive too late. Eager as we were to get on, it was impossible not to enjoy the grandeur of the mountains, along the base of which our road was winding, laid out and built with slender engineering skill. The same painful evidences of want, of thrift, energy, intelligence, and every element of civilization were everywhere present. Not a school house for twenty-five miles, and only two churches. Not a farm in good order, nor a village that was not ruined, dirty, and mean. On the faces of the people and on the face of the country were stamped the same marks of degradation—evidences of the same influence, indifference to improvement, absolute subjection to the system which has ruined them, and for whose permanent dominion they are fighting. It is not from the mouth of these men that arguments for or with the strength of personal illustration. Yet these are not the worst illustrations of what truth is. And many others know that Slavery never did more than it did to foul up among the mountains. But the dog who rules the state rules all

the State, and, though he does not set his foot on every man's neck, crushes the race into the soil.

The advance of Gen. Fremont's force was pushed with so much energy that it was not until the afternoon of Tuesday, near Franklin, that we came to the usual marks of the trail of a marching army. Several desired camps were passed early in the day, and in the afternoon the number of following soldiers and heavily loaded and broken-down wagons began to increase. The road grew constantly worse as we went on, and the delays in passing teams were more frequent and vexatious. At 5 o'clock, we came upon the 3d Brigade of Bleeker's Division, which had encamped four miles from Franklin, in a valley unsurpassed in picturesqueness. beauty. We entered it suddenly, crossing on foot the crest of an intervening hill. The South Branch of the Potomac wound through the dell between it and the inclining cliffs on the other side, where orchards of apple-trees in blossom, and peaches half bursting from their pink buds, and green hills whitened with tents and wagons, and along the banks the men, wearied with the day's march, were bathing and feeding. Down the slope of the western hills the afternoon sun shone brightly, filling the valley with warm light and enriching the tones of the thick foliage, which grew lustrous and transparent in its brilliancy. The camp of the main column at Franklin was more extensive, and almost equally lovely. From the hill on the side of which the tents of General and staff are pitched, the whole camp is visible, part of it broad plain at the foot of a long, wide ridge, superior clay in pines, coming sheer down to the river, which dips itself beneath the surface of the water. All the hills into which the valley is lit are covered with canvas, but on the plain the troops have only the tents, outside, of which, at night, the Indians in high girdles intervals have breadth on which dusky figures and uncertain outlines and gloomy shadows are strangely blended. There are signal fires on the mountain ridges and summits, and burning forests. Watched by extended shells, and heavy rocks clinging to the ridge, and dim moonlight obstructing eaming over the whole.

**Sunday Morning, May 18.**—I telegraphed last night the substance of dispatches received at headquarters concerning the force under Gen. Cox; that Prince, Mercer County, Va., occupied by his advance of six companies, had been attacked and taken by the Rebels under Humphrey Marshall, and that Gen. Cox the next morning had defeated Marshall and taken the town. Nothing further is known up to the hour of closing this mail—10 o'clock. And the dispatch was received last night from one of the staff, not official, but confirming previous accounts, and there seems to be no doubt of the facts above stated. It is not known what companies held the town, nor whether they were taken prisoners, nor what has been suffered, nor what forces were subsequently engaged. Official accounts and details are expected to-day.

#### BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

This Board met on Thursday afternoon, at 1 o'clock, President HINNEY in the chair.

A resolution was adopted that the Street Commissioner be requested to inform the Board, where permission is given by the Common Council to persons to place a lamp in front of their premises at their own expense, whether the gas for the same is paid for by the City Treasury.

Mr. BOOTH presented a petition, out of order, in favor of closing Revere Square as a park, and giving it over to the Asylum Institute at a nominal rent, as a site for a building, to be occupied by that institution as a museum of science and art. The petitioners set forth, that for a period of upward of 30 years the steady aid of the members and managers of the Institute has been devoted to the advancement of Agriculture, Commerce, and the Mechanic Arts; that its exponents have drawn thousands of strangers, visitors, and tourists to the city. Since the conversion of Castle Garden to its present use, and the destruction of the Crystal Palace, the members of the Institute say that there are no buildings or institutions of sufficient magnitude in New-York to answer for their exhibition.

Mr. BOOTH moved to refer to the Committee on Land and Places.

Mr. FARLEY objected in the most strenuous manner, and urged that the petition should go to the Committee on Roads. This square had been laid out as a park, and added greatly to the improvement of the property in that neighborhood. Every mile that it advances increases the difficulty, but there is a prospect of relief in the arrival of horses from Wheeling, which were then deliverable under contract on or before May 15. Though they were wanted long before, and promised to be sent from the War Department, Major Cary, chief Quartermaster of this Department, was obliged to postpone according to the most leniently running of peaceful days.

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Section 6 was then read as follows:

The Controller is hereby authorized to borrow, on the credit of the Corporation of the City of New-York, the sum of \$100,000, to be used for the payment of the expenses of the Common Council, and of its members each, including the Aldermen and Councilmen as serving for the several wards, on the 1st day of February, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, together with a citizen or citizens, to be appointed by the Common Council, who will be responsible for the payment of the sum for which they are to act, and for the payment of the same to the Controller.

For the payment of the principal of said bonds, and the interest thereon, the Controller is hereby authorized to pay the same to the First Mortgagors, at the Stock Exchange, upon the 1st day of January, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

The business of the Sub-Treasury was: Receipts, \$1,965,083.76; or Customs, \$238,990; Payments, \$1,111,553.50; Balance, \$1,216,530.87.

The Milwaukee and Prairie du Chien Railroad earned the second week of May:

For Freight, \$3,467.66

For Mail and Rents, \$4,072.23

Total, \$7,539.89

Corresponding week in 1861, 21,014.91

Increase, \$5,260.46

The earnings of the St. Louis, Alton and Chicago Railroad for the second week in May, were:

INCHES. INCHES.

Passenger, 5,000,000 5,000,000

Freight, 12,000,000 12,000,000

Received by Mortgage, 12,000,000

Secured by Mortgage, 12,000,000

Less for Taxes, 1,000,000

Less for Insurance, 1,000,000

Less for Interest, 1,000,000

Less for Other Expenses, 1,000,000

Less for Interest on Mortgages, 1,000,000

Less for Interest on Bonds, 1,000,000

Less for Interest on Bills, 1,000,000

Less for Interest on Notes, 1,000,000

Less for Interest on Bills, 1,000,000